

July 17, 2010

House Ways and Means Committee

Subcommittee on Social Security

Dear Distinguished Representatives:

I urge Congress to take immediate action to pass the Social Security Fairness Act (H.R. 235/S, 484), which would repeal the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision. These unfair measures take away some retired public employees' benefits that they have earned.

Every month I look at my \$44 social security deposit and rue this discriminatory legislation. How unfair that someone works multiple jobs and then one's benefits are reduced to a fraction of what one earned and is entitled to!

You may be aware that the pensions of the State of Illinois are in dire straits due to shenanigans perpetrated by legislators and governors over the years. Why not focus on eliminating pension holidays and other mistakes rather than penalizing those of us who paid our dues and now suffer the offsets?

I also fear that Illinois pensions will be reduced. Will Social Security take this into account? Plan ahead, Representatives! Reward those who worked to achieve social security benefits and should be treated with care, rather than penalized!

Sincerely,

Douglas Bedient